

Response to Non-Final Office Action
Docket No. A0988
Attorney Docket No. 022.0522.US.UTL

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (currently amended): A method for displaying an e-mail collection,
2 the e-mail collection including a plurality of e-mail messages assigned to one or
3 more categories and subcategories, the method comprising:
4 defining a display specification to specify a manner in which e-mail
5 messages assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be
6 displayed in a top-level representation, comprising each of:
7 specifying a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail
8 messages in differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and
9 subcategories to which the e-mail messages are assigned;
10 specifying a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail
11 messages in differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which
12 the e-mail messages are assigned; and
13 specifying a plurality of layouts of the category-specific
14 arrangements and the display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display
15 upon which the e-mail messages are displayed; and
16 displaying each of the categorized e-mail messages in accordance with a
17 ~~user-defined the display specification, wherein the display specification specifies,~~
18 ~~for each category and subcategory, the manner in which the messages categorized~~
19 ~~within that particular category or subcategory are to be displayed in a top-level~~
20 ~~representation of the entire e-mail collection; and~~
21 ~~wherein at least one category or subcategory is displayed in a different~~
22 ~~manner than at least one other category or subcategory using the category-specific~~
23 ~~arrangement and the display-specific arrangement for the category or subcategory~~
24 ~~to which the e-mail message is assigned, and using the layout for the display upon~~
25 ~~which the e-mail message is displayed.~~

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1 2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving a plurality of the display specifications from a user;
3 storing the received display specifications;
4 receiving a user selection of one of the plurality of stored display
5 specifications; and
6 displaying the e-mail collection in accordance with the user selected
7 display specification.

1 3. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 4. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the corresponding category, and
4 that the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from the
5 corresponding category.

1 5. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, wherein at
3 least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories is nested within
4 another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, and wherein the
5 nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed differently than the another
6 of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories.

1 6. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 providing an editor window display which lists the plurality of categories
3 and a plurality of message display alternatives for the top-level representation of
4 the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of categories; and
5 receiving and storing a user selection of one of the plurality of message

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6 display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 7. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 providing at least one tool button on the top-level representation of the e-
3 mail collection that is adapted to receive a user command to perform an operation
4 on one or more messages associated with an identified item; and
5 performing the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
6 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button..

1 8. (previously presented): A computer controlled display system for
2 displaying an e-mail collection, the e-mail collection including a plurality of e-
3 mail messages assigned to one or more categories and subcategories, the system
4 comprising:

5 a display specification defined to specify a manner in which e-mail
6 messages assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be
7 displayed in a top-level representation, comprising each of:

8 a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
9 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and subcategories
10 to which the e-mail messages are assigned;

11 a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
12 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which the e-mail
13 messages are assigned; and

14 a plurality of layouts of the category-specific arrangements and the
15 display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display upon which the e-
16 mail messages are displayed;

17 a display for presenting the e-mail collection messages on a viewing area
18 of the display; and

19 a processor that is adapted to control the display to display each of the
20 categorized e-mail messages in accordance with a user-defined the display
21 specification, wherein the display specification specifies, for each category and

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22 ~~subcategory, the manner in which the messages categorized within that particular~~
23 ~~category or subcategory are to be displayed in a top-level representation of the~~
24 ~~entire e-mail collection, and~~
25 ~~wherein at least one category or subcategory is displayed in a different~~
26 ~~manner than at least one other category or subcategory using the category-specific~~
27 ~~arrangement and the display-specific arrangement for the category or subcategory~~
28 ~~to which the e-mail message is assigned, and using the layout for the display upon~~
29 ~~which the e-mail message is displayed.~~

1 9. (currently amended): The system of claim 8, wherein the processor
2 is further adapted to:
3 receive a plurality of the display specifications from a user;
4 store the received display specifications;
5 receive a user selection of one of the plurality of stored display
6 specifications; and
7 display the e-mail collection in accordance with the user selected display
8 specification.

1 10. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 11. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the corresponding category, and
4 that the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from the
5 corresponding category.

1 12. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based definitions of

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3 categories, wherein at least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based
4 categories is nested within another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based
5 categories, and wherein the nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed
6 differently than the another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories..

1 13. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:

3 to provide an editor window display which lists the plurality of categories
4 and a plurality of message display alternatives for the toy-level representation of
5 the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of categories;

6 to receive and store a user selection of one of the plurality of message
7 display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 14. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:

3 to provide a tool button on the top-level representation of the e-mail
4 collection that is adapted to receive a user command to delete messages associated
5 with an identified item; and

6 to delete the messages associated with the identified item in response to a
7 user operation of the tool button.

1 15. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:

3 to receive a user command from at least one tool button on the top-level
4 representation of the e-mail collection and

5 to perform the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
6 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button.

1 16. (previously presented): An information storage media comprising
2 information that displays an e-mail collection, the e-mail collection including a

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3 plurality of e-mail messages assigned to one or more categories and
4 subcategories, the information comprising:
5 a display specification to specify a manner in which e-mail messages
6 assigned into each of the categories and subcategories are to be displayed in a top-
7 level representation, comprising each of:
8 a plurality of category-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
9 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the categories and subcategories
10 to which the e-mail messages are assigned;
11 a plurality of display-specific arrangements of e-mail messages in
12 differing levels of granularity that are specific to the display to which the e-mail
13 messages are assigned; and
14 a plurality of layouts of the category-specific arrangements and the
15 display-specific arrangements that are specific to the display upon which the e-
16 mail messages are displayed; and
17 information that displays each of the categorized e-mail messages in
18 accordance with ~~a user-defined~~ the display specification, wherein the display
19 ~~specification specifies, for each category and subcategory, the manner in which~~
20 ~~the messages categorized within that particular category or subcategory are to be~~
21 ~~displayed in a top-level representation of the entire e-mail collection; and~~
22 ~~wherein at least one category or subcategory is displayed in a different~~
23 ~~manner than at least one other category or subcategory using the category-specific~~
24 ~~arrangement and the display-specific arrangement for the category or subcategory~~
25 to which the e-mail message is assigned, and using the layout for the display upon
26 which the e-mail message is displayed.

1 17. (currently amended): The media of claim 16, further comprising:
2 information that receives a plurality of the display specifications from a
3 user; information that stores the received display specifications;
4 information that receives a user selection of one of the plurality of stored
5 display specifications; and

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6 information that displays the e-mail collection, in accordance with the user
7 selected display specification.

1 18. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, wherein the display
2 specification provides that the e-mail messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are encapsulated into threads, and that the top-level
4 display of the entire e-mail collection includes one item from each thread.

1 19. (previously presented): The media of claim 16,
2 wherein the display specification provides that the messages in at least one
3 of the plurality of categories and subcategories are encapsulated in the
4 corresponding category, and that the top-level display of the entire e-mail
5 collection includes one item from the corresponding category.

1 20. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, wherein the
2 display specification includes a plurality of user-defined rule-based categories,
3 wherein at least one of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories is nested
4 within another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories, and wherein
5 the nested user-defined rule-based category is displayed differently than the
6 another of the plurality of user-defined rule-based categories.

1 21. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, further comprising:
2 information that provides an editor window display which lists the
3 plurality of categories and a plurality of message display alternatives for the top-
4 level representation of the e-mail collection and each of the plurality of
5 categories; and
6 information that receives and stores a user selection of one of the plurality
7 of message display alternatives for at least one of the plurality of categories.

1 22. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, further comprising
2 information that:

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3 receives a user command via at least one tool button on the top-level
4 representation of the e-mail collection that is adapted to receive a user command
5 to perform an operation on one or more messages associated with an identified
6 item; and

7 performs the operation on the one or more messages associated with the
8 identified item in response to a user operation of the tool button.

1 23. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 messages within the categories and subcategories may be displayed as at least two
3 of: messages; threads; and groups.

1 24. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the
2 messages within the categories and subcategories may be displayed as at least two
3 of: messages; threads; and groups.

1 25. (previously presented): The media of claim 16, wherein the
2 wherein the messages within the categories and subcategories may be displayed
3 as at least two of: messages; threads; and groups.

1 26. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that each of the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are displayed separately in the top-level display of
4 the entire e-mail collection.

1 27. (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the display
2 specification provides that at least one of the plurality of categories and
3 subcategories, and each of the messages categorized therein, is to be omitted from
4 the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection.

1 28. (previously presented): The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 supplying a tool button associated with an item requesting expansion of
3 the item, and

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4 if the expansion is requested, differentially performing the expansion of
5 the item.

1 29. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising expanding an item representing an entire category or subcategory on
3 the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying a list of threads
4 whose messages are categorized within the category or subcategory selected for
5 expansion.

1 30. (previously presented): The method of claim 28, further
2 comprising expanding an item representing an individual thread on the top-level
3 representation of the e-mail collection by displaying the messages associated with
4 the selected thread as a single document represented by a tree-like thread structure
5 including at least one initial part of each of the messages.

1 31. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that each of the messages in at least one of the plurality of
3 categories and subcategories are displayed separately in the top-level display of
4 the entire e-mail collection.

1 32. (previously presented): The system of claim 8, wherein the display
2 specification provides that at least one of the plurality of categories and
3 subcategories, and each of the messages categorized therein, is to be omitted from
4 the top-level display of the entire e-mail collection.

1 33. (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted:
3 to receive a user command from a tool button associated with an item
4 requesting expansion of the item; and
5 if the expansion is requested, to differentially perform the expansion of the
6 item.

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1 34. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted to expand an item representing an entire category or
3 subcategory on the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying
4 a list of threads whose messages are categorized within the category or
5 subcategory selected for expansion.

1 35. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein the
2 processor is further adapted to expand an item representing an individual thread
3 on the top-level representation of the e-mail collection by displaying the messages
4 associated with the selected thread as a single document represented by a tree-like
5 thread structure including at least one initial part of each of the messages.

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